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# STATISTICAL SUMMARY

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS, U. S. D. A.

WASHINGTON, D. C.



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## All-Crop Volume Close to Last Year's Record

The huge 1949 overall crop outturn tops all previous years except last year's record. All-crop volume is 32 percent above the 1923-32 average. Aggregate yields per acre were second only to '48. Accounting also for the huge outturn were a large acreage, plentiful power machinery, a liberal use of fertilizer, and a mostly favorable crop season.

## Harvested Acres, 356 Million

Harvested acreage in principal crops in '49 totaled 356 million acres. Last year, 352 million; average 341 million.

## Record Crops of Rice, Dry Beans and Pears

Only rice, dry beans and pears reached record production. Corn, soybeans, sorghum grain and tree nuts are near record.

## Wheat, Oats, and Cotton Among the Large Crops

Relatively large crops were produced of wheat, oats, cotton, cottonseed, flaxseed, tobacco, apples, peaches, cherries, hops, cranberries, sugar cane for sugar, and truck. Potatoes, broom-corn, plums and prunes are among the crops which are above average production.

## Year-End Estimates, '49 With Comparisons

Corn, 3,378 million bushels. Production last year, 3,682 million; average, 2,788 million.  
Wheat, 1,146 million bushels. Last year, 1,314 million; average, 992 million.  
Oats, 1,323 million bushels. Last year, 1,493 million; average, 1,234 million.  
Barley, 238 million bushels. Last year, 316 million; average, 305 million.  
Rye, 18.7 million bushels. Last year, 26.4 million; average, 35.1 million.  
Buckwheat, 5.2 million bushels. Last year, 6.3 million; average, 7 million.  
Flaxseed, 43.7 million bushels. Last year, 54.5 million; average, 30.1 million.  
Rice, 89 million bushels. Last year, 85 million; average, 63 million.  
Sorghum grain, 152.6 million bushels. Last year, 131.6 million; average, 102.4 million.  
Hay (all), 99.3 million tons. Last year, 99.5 million; average, 99.5 million.  
Beans (dry edible, 100 lbs.), 21.6 million bags. Last year, 20.8 million; average, 16.9 million.  
Peas (dry field, 100 lbs.), 3.3 million bags. Last year, 3.6 million; average, 5.6 million.  
Soybeans, 222.3 million bushels. Last year, 223 million; average, 148 million.  
Cotton, 16 million bales. Last year, 14.9 million; average, 11.3 million.  
Peanuts, 1.9 billion pounds. Last year, 2.3 billion; average, 1.8 billion.  
Potatoes, 402 million bushels. Last year, 455 million; average, 393 million.  
Sweetpotatoes, 54.2 million bushels. Last year, 50.2 million; average, 63.6 million.  
Tobacco, 1.99 billion pounds. Last year, 1.98 billion; average, 1.72 billion.  
Sugarcane (sugar and seed), 7.3 million tons. Last year, 6.8 million; average, 6.0 million.  
Sugar beets, 10.2 million tons. Last year, 9.4 million; average, 10.1 million.  
Broomcorn, 44 thousand tons. Last year, 30 thousand; average, 42 thousand.  
Hops, 49.3 million pounds. Last year, 49.8 million; average, 44.1 million.

## 1949 Fruit Crop Estimates

Apples, 133.2 million bushels. Production last year, 88.4 million; average, 111 million.  
Peaches, 74.8 million bushels. Last year, 65.4 million; average, 68.9 million.  
Pears, 36.6 million bushels. Last year, 26.3 million; average, 30.8 million.  
Grapes, 2.7 million tons. Last year, 3.0 million; average, 2.7 million.

Cherries (12 States), 244 thousand tons. Last year, 214 thousand; average, 172 thousand.  
Apricots (3 States), 200 thousand tons. Last year, 247 thousand; average, 227 thousand.  
Cranberries (5 States), 857 thousand barrels. Last year, 968 thousand; average, 665 thousand.  
Pecans, 113.7 million pounds. Last year, 177.7 million; average, 110.6 million.  
Oranges, 110 million boxes. Last year, 104 million; average, 97 million.  
Grapefruit, 36 million boxes. Last year, 45 million; average, 50 million.  
Lemons (California), 12 million boxes. Last year, 10 million; average, 13 million.

## Feed Grains, Largest Supply on Record

Production of feed grains--corn, oats, barley, and sorghum grain--nearly 126 million tons is not as much as last year but exceeds all other years. Add the huge carryover and we have the largest feed grain supply in history--both in total and per animal unit.

## Oilseeds Near Last Year's Record

Oilseeds produced in '49--about 15.3 million tons--will be nearly the same as the record total in '48 and 41 percent above average. Soybeans, nearly up to the '48 record. Cottonseed will top last year's total by about 9 percent. Flaxseed down from last year but up from average by 45 percent. Peanuts also down from '48 and about average crop.

## Record Crop of Tung Nuts

The tung nut crop of about 66.1 thousand tons tops all previous years. Production last year was 58.5 thousand tons; 53.2 thousand in '47 and 57.4 thousand in '46. Large plantings of tung trees have been made in the Gulf Coast States during the past two decades. Many trees have come into bearing during the last few years. Production averaged only 3,692 tons during the 1939-43 five-year period. The '49 crop is distributed by States as follows: Mississippi 30,400; Louisiana 17,000; Florida 16,500; Alabama 1,200; and Georgia 1,000.

## Food Grain Tonnage Large, But Down From Last Year

Food grain production--wheat, rice, rye and buckwheat--will total 37 million tons. This compares with 42 million tons in '48 and 44 million tons in '47, but it tops any earlier years. Food and feed grains total 163 million tons, exceeded only by last year's 180.5 million.

## Seed Production Up From Last Year

Six major seed crops--alfalfa, red clover, alsike clover, sweetclover, lespedeza, and timothy--total 527.7 million pounds, up 8 percent from '48 and 9 percent from 10-year average. Alfalfa seed crop, largest on record; lespedeza seed, second largest. Seeds carryover was small. Means planting supply (production plus carryover) will be a little below average.

## PARITY PRICES FOR FARM PRODUCTS AND ACTUAL PRICES RECEIVED

COMMODITY AND UNIT	ACTUAL PRICE		PARITY PRICE
	Oct. 15 1949	Nov. 15 1949	
			Nov. 15 1949
Wheat, bu. ....	dol. 1.89	1.90	2.12
Corn, bu. ....	dol. 1.09	1.02	1.54
Peanuts, lb. ....	ct. 10.2	10.4	11.5
Cotton, lb. ....	ct. 28.70	27.76	29.76
Potatoes, bu. ....	dol. 1.30	1.34	1.76
Hogs, 100 lb. ....	dol. 17.60	15.60	17.40
Beef cattle, 100 lb. ....	dol. 19.50	19.20	13.00
Veal calves, 100 lb. ....	dol. 21.90	22.00	16.20
Lambs, 100 lb. ....	dol. 21.50	21.40	14.10
Butterfat, lb. ....	ct. 1/ 60.2	1/ 58.9	63.1
Milk, wholesale, 100 lb. ....	dol. 1/ 3.91	1/ 3.85	3.84
Chickens, live, lb. ....	ct. 23.2	23.1	27.4
Eggs, doz. ....	ct. 1/ 44.3	1/ 39.6	51.6

1/ Adjusted for seasonal variation.



### Truck Crop Tonnage Down a Little

1949 tonnage of commercial truck for fresh market (25 crops) totaled 8.2 million tons, down 3 percent from 1948, and 11 percent below average. Acreage was about average and 1 percent less than in '48. Tonnage for processing in '49 (11 crops) was 5.5 million, nearly same as in '48 but 11 percent above average. (Full details in Annual Summary, Commercial Truck Crops for Fresh Market)

### Plenty of Oranges, Less Grapefruit

The '49-50 citrus production will be slightly less than that of the '48-49 season. Increase in oranges and lemons will be more than offset by a decrease in grapefruit.

### Big Potato Total on Small Acreage

Another big potato crop was produced this year even though the acreage was smallest in over 70 years. The 402 million bushels is 12 percent below last year's production but is a little above the 10-year average. Yield per acre, 211 bushels, was near record exceeded only by last year's 216-bushel yield.

### More Sweetpotatoes Than Last Year

Eight percent more sweetpotatoes were produced this year than last--54 million bushels compared with 50 million. 10-year average has been 64 million bushels. Yield per acre, 100 bushels, tops 10-year average by 10 bushels and has been exceeded only once in the past 25 years.

### More Maple Sirup From Fewer Trees

Maple sirup produced is estimated at 1.6 million gallons, compared with 1.4 million last year and 2.2 million 10-year average. Yield per tree was greater than last year but fewer trees were tapped this year. Maple sugar production totaled 292 thousand pounds, up 28 percent from last year but down from average by 37 percent.

### No Coffee Shortage Indicated

No real shortage of coffee in the U. S. is indicated during the present marketing year which ends about next June. World coffee supplies were in surplus before the war...will be close to world requirements for next year or two. As a whole, people in the U. S. are drinking about 50 percent more coffee than before the war.

### Cotton Estimate, 16 Million Bales

Cotton estimate is up a half-million bales from month ago. Main cause of gain, big production in Texas--now 5.9 million bales. Half of U. S. cotton crop is from Texas and three far-western cotton States--California (1,300,000), Arizona, (500,000), New Mexico, (255,000). New U. S. estimate is 16,034,000 bales. 1948 production, 14,877,000; 10-year average, 11,306,000. Acreage in cotton now estimated at 27.4 million compared with 23.2 million bales in '48 and 22 million average.

### Pig Crop in '49 Up 13 Percent

Pig crop in '49 totaled 96.3 million head, up 13 percent from last year. Spring crop of 59 million pigs was up 15 percent and fall crop of 37.3 million was up 10 percent. Fall pigs saved per litter at 6.51 is second largest on record. About 62.5 million pigs are expected for the spring crop of '50. This would be 6 percent larger than last spring.

### Winter Wheat Acreage Cut 15 Percent

An estimated 53 million acres of winter wheat was needed in the fall of '49 for the '50 winter wheat crop. This is a reduction of 15 percent from the acreage seeded in the fall of '48 but 11 percent more than average. The acreage allotment program was the main factor in the wheat acreage reduction.

### Next Year's Crop Forecast at 885 Million Bushels

Based on December 1 conditions next year's winter wheat crop is forecast at 885 million bushels. This compares with 902 million in '49 and 727 million bushels average.

### Increase in New-Crop Rye Acreage

Rye acreage sown for all purposes has increased 12 percent over the acreage seeded a year ago. About 3.7 million acres were sown this fall compared with 3.3 million acres a year ago. Condition of rye on Dec. 1 at 88 percent is 2 points above that reported a year ago, and 7 points above 10-year average.

### Record Milk Production in November

The 8,392 million pounds of milk produced in November compared with 8,031 million for same month in '48 and 7,960 million pounds 10-year average for the month. Daily production per capita was third lowest for the month in past 10 years--only 1.87

pounds per day, per person, compared with 1.81 year ago and 1.94 10-year average for the month. Total produced Jan. through Nov. was 109.8 billion pounds compared with 107.3 billion same 11 months in '48 and 107 billion average for same period.

### Record Egg Production

Egg production in November was 50 percent above average for the month, with the rate per hen at the peak in all parts of the country. Eggs laid totaled 3.9 billion in November compared with 3.5 billion year ago and 2.6 billion 10-year average for the month. U. S. production first 11 months totaled 51.7 billion eggs, 1 percent more than last year and 13 percent above average for the same period. Farm laying flocks averaged 378.9 million layers in November, up 4 percent from year ago and up 6 percent from the average. Potential layers, which include all pullets, totaled nearly 453 million on December 1. This was 5 percent more than a year ago but 2 percent less than average.

### Parity Ratio Drops to 100

In terms of prices received and prices paid, farmers' per-unit purchasing power on Nov. 15 was at parity, or same as for the base period 1909-14. Parity ratio at mid-November dropped to 100 for the first time since November 1941. This applies, however, to farm products as a whole. Prices of many farm crops on Nov. 15 were below parity...wheat was 90 percent of parity; rice, 95; oats, 69; corn, 66; cotton, 93; peanuts, 90; soybeans, 85; hogs, 90; tobacco, 94; potatoes, 76 etc. Higher than parity for such items as beef cattle, calves, lambs and wool held the average to 100. Farmers as a whole, of course, are producing more than in the base period and have more units to sell.

### Prices Received Down 12 Percent; Paid, 3 Percent

Average prices received by farmers at mid-November were down 12 percent from a year earlier. Prices paid (including interest and taxes) for the same period were down only 3 percent. Index of prices received (base 1909-14=100) was at 239 in November compared with 271 year earlier, down 32 points. Index of prices paid, interest and taxes, was at 240 compared with 248 year ago, down only 8 index points. Prices received in November were down 68 points from high while prices paid were down only 11 points from high.

### Business Activity Encouraging

Business activity has improved during the past few weeks. Industrial production recovered to summer levels with the adjustment of the steel dispute. Spending for new construction continues at a near record rate. Consumer income is still at a high level. Wholesale prices were still at a high level. Wholesale prices were down less than 1 percent, from October to November.

### Farm Employment About Same As Year Ago

Number of persons at work on farms in late November totaled 9,003,000, about the same as a year ago. Includes farm family labor, 7,398,000 and hired labor, 1,605,000. Year ago totals were 7,457,000 and 1,590,000.

### Civilian Employment Up From October

Civilian employment in November totaled 59.5 million, up a half million persons from October. Civilian employment year ago was 59.9 million. Unemployed at 3.4 million was down from the 3.6 million month earlier.

CURRENT INDEXES FOR AGRICULTURE		
INDEX NUMBERS	BASE PERIOD	Nov. 1949
Prices received by farmers .....	1910-14= 100	239
Prices paid by farmers, interest and taxes .....	1910-14= 100	240
Parity ratio .....	1910-14= 100	100
Wholesale prices of food .....	1910-14= 100	247
Retail prices of food .....	1910-14= 100	1/259
Farm wage rates .....	1910-14= 100	1/2/414
Weekly factory earnings .....	1910-14= 100	3/485
PRODUCTION COMPARISONS		
	Jan.-Nov. 1948	Jan.-Nov. 1949
Milk, (Bil. lb.) .....	107.3	109.8
Eggs, (Bil.) .....	51.2	51.7
Beef, (Dr. wt., mil. lb.) .....	3/ 5271	3/ 5876
Lamb & Mutton (Dr. wt., mil. lb.) .	3/ 545	3/ 439
Pork & Lard (Mil. lb.) .....	3/ 6979	3/ 7709
All meats (Dr. wt., mil. lb.) .....	3/ 13441	3/ 14635
1/ October figure. 2/ Revised. Adjusted for seasonal variation. 3/ January-October under federal inspection. 3/ September figure.		